

There was no objection.

AMERICANS NEED TO GET VACCINATED

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight to speak on the ongoing threat posed by COVID-19, particularly the delta variant, which is highly contagious and is rapidly spreading throughout our country.

After 18 months of this pandemic we are all yearning for a return to normalcy, but we must get vaccinated to prevent further spread of this virus.

Recent data show that 99 percent of deaths due to COVID-19 are among those who are unvaccinated.

In Ohio, fewer than 50 percent of residents have received their first dose of the vaccine.

We have the tools to emerge from this crisis, but we must use them. These vaccines are safe. They are effective. And we must all do our part to get our loved ones, our friends, and ourselves vaccinated as quickly as possible.

Finally, I want to thank our healthcare heroes and heroes in Cuyahoga, Erie, Lorain, Lucas, and Ottawa Counties. They are doing courageous work saving lives every day.

Get vaccinated.

CRISIS AT THE SOUTHERN BORDER

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the alarming and growing crisis on our southern border.

Despite the rhetoric surrounding this issue, the reality is families and unaccompanied children are arriving at our southern border in greater numbers than in the past decades.

June of this year alone saw a 450 percent increase in border encounters compared to a year ago, and this fiscal year has seen more than 1.1 million illegal crossings.

Additionally, Customs and Border Protection have seized more fentanyl so far this year than in all of 2020, and high positivity rates of COVID-19 among illegal migrants threaten to undue much of the hard work our country has done in combating the pandemic.

The Biden border crisis is turning deadlier by the day.

This crisis is a direct result of the policies coming from the Biden-Harris administration.

When Vice President HARRIS finally visited the border last month, she claimed the administration has made progress, but the numbers don't lie, and with roughly 3,000 migrants cross-

ing each day, little progress has been made.

I believe securing our borders is the first step in a broader discussion of much-needed comprehensive immigration reform.

Ensuring the safety of American citizens will allow us to address that and is the best chance for a prosperous future.

□ 2030

INVESTING IN JOBS, OPPORTUNITY, WORKING FAMILIES

(Ms. JACOBS of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACOBS of California. Mr. Speaker, this past year exposed deep inequities in our society, but it did not create them.

In San Diego County, 60 percent of families couldn't access the childcare they needed before the pandemic. We know it has only gotten worse.

It isn't enough to just get back to normal. For too many families, "normal" wasn't working.

That is why I am so proud that, this week, we will pass appropriations legislation that increases funding for education, healthcare, childcare, and more. I am proud that the package includes \$3 million in local project funding for my district, including funding to boost early learning and multimedia education in Linda Vista and City Heights and to make Balboa Park more accessible.

I am also grateful that the package includes my request for \$1 million for San Diego County's Child Care Expansion Fund to help providers increase available spots for care.

There is so much work to be done to build the future we deserve, and I am grateful to be here doing it on behalf of the community that I love.

WATER FOR OUR FARMLANDS

(Mr. LAMALFA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, recent aggressive moves by California water and environmental regulators now threaten very long-held water rights, pre-1914, the gold standard in my home State. Why? The mismanagement of water during a short rainfall year has led to hundreds of thousands of acres of farmland being cut off from water due to Federal and State regulators that prioritize fish over people's needs.

A California State agency is now ready to cut off water to crops in just 6 days, midsummer, mid-crop year. Imagine, over halfway through the year, and they just cut it off. This is in favor of failed environmental policy that allows the water to flow out to the sea and doing so ostensibly to help a fish population that it really is not helping.

Our infrastructure that we are contemplating needs to include water storage projects. For the American consumer, don't count on these fruit and vegetable products coming from somewhere else in the world, except at a much higher price. They will not get to your table with the same high quality you expect.

We need water storage. We need to be included in any infrastructure bill. Otherwise, we all suffer as Americans. This is everybody's problem.

RIISING COVID CASES

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, COVID cases in America are rising. They are rising in almost 25 States. Texas happens to be one of the States with the largest number of COVID cases.

The United States has over 31 million cases and, of course, over 600,000 who have died.

Hospitals today in certain areas are full, and the plague or the impact, tragically, on those who are unvaccinated. But the story goes on.

As we begin to enter school, children under 12 cannot be vaccinated, even though research is going on.

Here is my plea: To those in the 18th Congressional District, in Houston, Texas, in Harris County, in Texas, and in the Nation, the unvaccinated should get vaccinated. The surge is creating a rise in the pandemic again.

If we are to get back to normal, find someone that you agree with that comforts you—your faith leader, your best friend—and talk about the importance of getting vaccinated.

People are dying. Children will become infected and/or carriers when they go back to school. Everyone in school should be vaccinated. Yes, in the schools today, going back, you must be masked. You should wear a mask, and wear a mask inside, even if you are vaccinated. We are trying to save lives.

Get vaccinated. It will save lives.

ECONOMIC POLICIES CRUSHING TO WORKING POOR

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SCHWEIKERT) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Mr. Speaker, yes, it is one of those last names. I have family members that have trouble pronouncing it.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Mr. Speaker, may I make a quick parliamentary inquiry?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state his parliamentary inquiry.